



HERITAGE ARTS ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Gus Velasco Neighborhood Center - Meeting Room No. 1
Tuesday, February 25, 2014

MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER – Chairperson Albert Hayes called the meeting to order at 9:07 a.m.
2. ROLL CALL

Attendance: Gloria Duran, Albert Hayes, Paula Minnehan, Amparo Oblea, Larry Oblea, May Sharp, and Marlene Vernava

Absent: Tom Summerfield (Excused)

City Staff: Richard Moore, City Council Liaison
Laurie Rios, City Council Liaison Alternate
Maricela Balderas, Director of the Community Services Department
Jeff Mahlstedt, Community Services Supervisor
Wayne Morrell, Director of Planning & Development (Excused)
Maritza Sosa-Nieves, Management Assistant I
Teresa Clift, Administrative Clerk II

Guests: Sylvia Arias, Head Teacher, City of Santa Fe Springs
Fire Chief Mike Crook, City of Santa Fe Springs
Robert Garcia, Associate Civil Engineer, City of Santa Fe Springs
Noe Negrete, Director of Public Works, City of Santa Fe Springs
Edmund Ramirez, Community Services Supervisor, City of Santa Fe Springs

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Amparo Oblea and seconded by Marlene Vernava to approve the Minutes of January 28, 2014. The motion was carried unanimously. Gloria Duran abstained.

4. COUNCIL LIAISON REPORTS

Councilmember Moore announced that the City Council will be having a study session to begin to review the mid-year budget at their meeting of February 27 at 5:00 p.m. Included in the discussion will be the Capital Improvement Project (CIP) priority list. The public will have an opportunity to comment at a future town hall meeting. In addition, Mr. Moore stated that the Ridgeline Company will begin to remove the refinery tanks today.

Mayor Pro-Tem Rios reported that volunteers will be recognized at the February 27 City Council meeting. In addition, she advised that applications permitting the sale of fireworks are available at City Hall. Also, applications for the Armando Mora, Larry Sandoval, and Albert Sharp Memorial Scholarships Program are now being accepted from senior high school students through April 1, 2014. Applications are available on the city's website at www.santafesprings.org/about/memorial_scholarships.asp In addition, the Youth Citizenship Award application is also available on the city's website at www.santafesprings.org/about/

[memorial_scholarships.asp](#). The deadline is March 26, 2014. Furthermore, the Activity Center Fitness Facility will undergo some renovations including, new flooring, fitness equipment, new paint, and will have ADA accessibility. Lastly, the athletic fields are closed for renovations and will reopen on March 1, 2014.

Mayor Pro-Tem Laurie Rios also reported on the following events and programs:

- Abigail Barraza Foundation in support of Pink Campaign will host a Cancer Balloon Memorial at Heritage Sculpture Garden on March 1, 2014.
- Easter Egg Decorating at all Parks – April 16, 2014 at 3:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.
- Annual Easter Hunt – April 19, 2014 at Los Nietos Park will begin with a pancake breakfast, sponsored by Sister City Young Embassadors, at 8:00 a.m. Presale tickets are \$4.00 and \$4.50 on the day of the event.

Chair Hayes called on Fire Chief Crook who made a presentation on the Paramedic Prescription Program offered to city residents. Program covers all members of household for paramedic services; it excludes transport cost. Cost is \$60 per year, which may be paid in full or deducted from monthly water bill at a cost of \$5 per month.

8. PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR REPORT

Noe Negrete informed members on the status of the following projects:

- a. **Proposed Dog Park at Santa Fe Springs Park** – Staff is looking into alternative sites for the dog park. Noe will keep members apprised.
- b. **Soaring Dreams Water Feature** – The city is working with the contractor and their insurance company on a settlement. Noe has made recommendations to the City Manager for future City Council approval which includes the following options:
 - 1) repair and replace electrical;
 - 2) bring up to today's standards; or
 - 3) remove water feature and make it a static art feature, and incorporate lighting to accent art piece.

Staff is working on a cost analysis of all three options and will share this information with the committee at a future meeting.

Discussion ensued regarding the upkeep of the Art In Public Places art pieces throughout the City. Maricela recommended assigning Maritza Sosa-Nieves to follow-up on the status and bring the Committee up to date.

- c. **Takata Family Gift of the "Archer" Sculpture** – Art piece is pending to be picked up from family. Members will be kept apprised of status.
- d. **Installation of a Splash Pad** – The Department of Public Works has conducted a cost comparison. Cost to build a ramp to make wading pools ADA accessible ranges from \$60 to \$80 thousand dollars; to replace wading pool for a new splash pad cost ranges from \$400 to \$600 thousand dollars; and the construction of a new splash pad at a new location, leaving wading pools in current condition, cost ranges from \$400 to \$550 thousand dollars. Staff has visited the City of

Baldwin Park to learn about their experience in building and maintaining their splash pad. Staff also has plans in visiting the City of Fullerton and Los Angeles County, Mulberry Park. Noe Negrete will keep members apprised.

6. DIRECTOR OF DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY SERVICES REPORT

Maricela Balderas reported on the following:

- a. **Activity Center/ Fitness Center Renovation Update** – As per above mentioned report by Mayor Pro-Tem Rios. (Item 4)
- b. **Aquatics Program Update** - The City Council approved to hire staff for the Aquatic Center Program. City is in the process of recruiting 18 positions.
- c. **Community Garden Program Renovation** – Currently working with staff in cleaning up and maintaining garden. A new handbook and agreement for all gardeners has been completed. A meeting will be held with all gardeners to review handbook and new policy.
- d. **City Wide Volunteer Program** – Maritza Sosa-Nieves gave an overview on the program and distributed the volunteer brochure, volunteer handbook, and copies of slides. The volunteer brochure has been distributed at all city facilities. She is working with technical staff to upload information onto city website. All potential volunteers, ages 18 years and older, undergo a TB test and Live Scan background check and attend an orientation on city volunteer policies and procedures. Volunteers ages 14 and under must be accompanied by a parent or guardian. Volunteers are issued identification cards and have the opportunity to be placed at different facilities such as the Library, Gus Velasco Neighborhood Center and Child Care Center. Anyone interested in volunteering may contact Maritza.
- e. **Gus Velasco Neighborhood Center (GVNC) Pio Pico Room Floor Replacement Status** – The flooring has been completed and all programs have resumed. The Department of Public Works has recommended the replacement of the Ontiveros Room flooring. Maricela will keep members apprised.
- f. **Covered California Program, GVNC Certified Enrollment Site Update** – The Gus Velasco Neighborhood Center is now an approved certified enrollment site. Case workers have been trained and certified and are currently assisting patrons to enroll in Covered California. The deadline to enroll is March 31. The Center will receive a reimbursement of \$58 for each new enrollment and \$20 for each annual renewal. Funds will be allocated to the Family and Human Services Fund to assist Santa Fe Springs families in crises.
- g. **VITA (Volunteer Income Tax Assistance) Program** – The Gus Velasco Neighborhood Center is currently offering appointments to assist patrons with tax preparation on Tuesday's, Thursday's and on Saturday's through April 12. To date, volunteers have processed 109 returns.
- h. **Health & Wellness Resource Fair** – The Family and Human Services Division is collaborating with Los Nietos School District on hosting a health and wellness resource fair on May 10, 2014 at Rancho Santa Gertrudes Elementary School from 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. Staff is working on marketing and promotional materials.

- i. ***New Library Spanish Book Club, Cultura y Lectura*** – This is a new program introduced by the City Library featuring Spanish literature. Members of the book club meet once a month for discussion and learn from each other through cultural stories with universal themes. The next meeting is on March 10, 2014 at 6:00 p.m. at the Library.
- j. ***Heritage Artwork in Public Places Directory/Art Walk Map Update*** - Maritza Sosa-Nieves introduced the latest Heritage Artwork In Public Places Directory, which denotes the location sites of the various 101 art pieces throughout the city. Also, she explained that she is working with Cherie Blake to develop another brochure featuring an accessible art walk for the community to enjoy. The art walk map will be incorporated into the City's website, and will showcase art works at various city facilities and locations. Brochure is estimated to be completed summer 2014. It is also anticipated that the art walk map can be a useful tool to offer future art tours and become an educational element for schools.

Mayor Pro Tem Rios commended Maricela for recognizing staff skills and utilizing their abilities in producing professional and high quality materials, such as that of Cherie Blake's artistic talents.

5. SUPER COMMITTEE REPORT

- a. ***City-Wide Advisory Committee Code of Conduct*** – Chair Hayes reported that the Super Committee will be meeting on March 4, 2014 for further discussion and to make their final recommendations. He will keep members apprised.

7. EXECUTIVE SECRETARY REPORT

Jeff Mahlstede reported on the following:

- a. ***Financial Report*** – Jeff provided an overview of Fiscal Year 2013/2014 period ending January 2014 Financial Report and Detail and Summary Reports. Copies were distributed to the Committee members for their review. Total Fund Balance: \$1,086,000.

A motion was made by Gloria Duran and seconded by Marlene Vernava to accept the Financial Report for the period ending January 2014. The motion carried unanimously.

b. Art Fest 2014 Update

- 1) Art Consultant Contractual Services Report - Members reviewed the report for the period ending January 2014. Total expenses were \$10,387.50
- 2) Sponsorships Update – Sponsorship Packet was distributed to each member. Chair Hayes and Jeff have attended Chamber events to promote Art Fest 2014. Jeff will be following up with Yolanda Garcia and keep members apprised.
- 3) Costs for Purchasing New Art Panels – Staff will be purchasing panels in preparation of ArtFest 2014.
- 4) Social Media Policy Update – Facebook account and web account, sfsartfest, have been established. Maricela noted that the Social Media policy is yet to

be approved as it is being reviewed by the Joint Powers Insurance Agency (JPIA) attorney; however, City Manager Thaddeus McCormack has consented uploading Art Fest 2014 marketing materials onto Facebook for promotional purposes.

- c. **Traffic Signal Cabinet Art – Approval Options for Proposed Renderings by Candace Galvan.** Members were introduced to three proposed art renderings by Artist Candace Galvan of “1957 All American City” theme. In a majority vote, members unanimously selected art rendering option number 2.

A motion was made by Marlene Vernava and seconded by May Sharp to accept rendering by Artist Candace Galvan and make a recommendation to the City Council requesting to approve selected art rendering for the Traffic Signal Cabinet Art Pilot Program at the northeast corner of Telegraph Road and Orr and Day Road. The motion was carried unanimously.

9. OLD BUSINESS

Jeff reported on the following projects:

- a. **EL Greco “Whispering Shadows” Update** – Jeff shared photos of completed pillars. A rendering of the completed project will be presented to members at the next meeting. Jeff has also requested a timeline from developer.
- b. **LeFiell “Journey” Update** – The development project at Firestone Boulevard is on schedule.
- c. **Revision to Heritage Artwork in Public Places Art Education Grant Guidelines** - A copy of the revisions to Fiscal Year 2013/2014 guidelines and Fiscal 2014/2015 guidelines were distributed to members for their review. Fiscal Year 2013/2014 final report is due May 22, 2014. New applications are also due on May 22, 2014. The due date to submit final report for Fiscal Year 2014/2015 is May 21, 2015.

A motion was made by Larry Oblea and seconded by Gloria Duran to accept the revisions to the Art in Public Places Art Education Grant Guidelines. The motion was unanimously carried.

- d. **Mural at Rancho Santa Gertrudes Elementary School** – Jeff explained that the mural posted in recent media was sponsored by the school’s Parent/Teacher fund. The principal has offered to schedule a tour of the kindergarten mural, which was sponsored by the Heritage Artwork in Public Places Art Education Grant funds. Completion of the mural is estimated on April 22, 2014. Jeff will keep members apprised.
- e. **HAAC Approved Art Education Grants for City Programs Update** (Hispanic Heritage Student Academy, Art in the City, Heritage Park Art Camp, Santa Fe Springs Community Playhouse)

Ed Ramirez made a presentation on the *Hispanic Heritage Student Academy* as part of the Fiestas Patrias program featuring Chihuahua, Mexico. Commissioned artist and educator Petra Nieto worked with a total of 483 students from K-8 grades. The curriculum included artifacts, basket weaving, music, and dance.

Sylvia Arias made a presentation on the *Art in the City* program. Children visited the Sculpture Garden and its art pieces. The children are introduced to various art mediums and learn about the different artists. The children are also sketching and maintaining a journal. Next plans are to invite artist Karen Koblitz to the City Library Cesar Chavez Garden and meet and speak to the children about her art work titled, "Si Se Puede."

The Heritage Park *Art Camp* and *Community Playhouse* programs are scheduled after the May 22, 2014 Heritage Arts in Public Places Art Education Grant final report submission due date. Staff will reapply in 2014/2015 fiscal year program to coordinate date accordingly and staff will request that last year's awarded funds be reimbursed to the Heritage Art In Public Places Art Education Grant Fund.

- f. ***Developers Guide and Ordinances Update*** – Marcela reported that the revised Ordinance will be presented for its first reading for City Council approval at their meeting of February 27, 2014.

10. NEW BUSINESS

None.

11. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Art Fest 2014 – Marketing Event Mailer

12. NEXT MEETING – **Tuesday, March 25, 2014 @ the Gus Velasco Neighborhood Center – Meeting Room No. 1 at 9:00 a.m.**

13. ADJOURNMENT – There being no further business to discuss, Chair Hayes adjourned the meeting at 11:12 a.m.

Prepared By: Teresa Clift,
Administrative Clerk, II



Jeff Mahlstedt,
Executive Secretary